

TOWN OF CAIRNBROOK  
Loyal Hanna Coal & Coke Company  
Cairnbrook  
Somerset County  
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-369

HAER  
PA  
56-CABK,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record  
National Park Service  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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Location: Cairnbrook, Somerset County, Pennsylvania

Date of Construction: 1912

Present Owner: Various private owners.

Present Use: Residences.

Significance: The Philadelphia-based Loyal Hanna Coal & Coke Company developed its No. 6 and No. 7 mines in Cairnbrook, beginning in 1912. The mine cars at Cairnbrook were pulled by mules prior to the electrification of the mines and the company's mules were housed and fed in this well-preserved mule barn.

Historian: Scott C. Brown, 1992.

Project Information: The results of the study of Somerset County were published in 1994: Gray Fitzsimons, Ken Rose, and Patricia Summers (eds), Somerset County, Pennsylvania: An Inventory of Historic Engineering and Industrial Sites (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service). The contents of the publication were transmitted to the Library of Congress as individual reports. Research notes, field photos and copies of historic photos collected during the project were transmitted to the AIHP Collection, Special Collections, Stapleton Library, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15705.

The company town of Cairnbrook contains approximately 150 company houses on T 735 (Sixth Street), T 736 (Fifth Street), T 737 (Fourth Street), T 738 (Third Street), T 739 (Second Street), T 740 (First Street), T 741 (Mine Avenue) and T 797 (John Avenue). The houses are primarily two-and-a-half-story, front-gabled, single-family houses with center-ridge chimneys and full-front porches. There are also one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled doubles and two-and-a-half-story, side-gabled doubles. Many houses retain their original fishscale asphaltic-shingle siding and some outhouses remain, often converted into sheds.

On east side of T 739 (Second Street) are four managers' houses, containing concrete walls and concrete-slab floors. Each of these two-story dwellings is square in plan and each has a pyramidal roof with projecting eaves, a center front porch, and concrete foundations. Across the street are two smaller two-story dwellings constructed in similar fashion as the larger concrete houses. Each of these smaller dwellings has a flat roof. These concrete structures are among the only of their kind found in southwest Pennsylvania's coal towns.

Additional managers' houses are located on both sides of T 740 (First Street). Some are brick two-and-a-half-story, hipped-roof houses and others are two-and-a-half-story, side-gabled houses with prominent shed-roof dormers. Other buildings in the town include the Graef Lutheran Church at the southwest corner of SR 1016 (McGregor Avenue) and T 738 (Third Street) and Shade High School and a two-story brick company store on the south side of SR 1016. The store has slightly arched brick lintels and retains most of its six-over-six-light, double-hung windows. The first floor of the facade has been infilled with glass blocks and at the cornice level is a brick tapestry pattern.